

PROCESS FOR STRUCTURING A PAPER POSTER OR PAPER PHOTOGRAPH

Field of the Invention

[0001] The invention relates to a process for the structuring of a paper poster or paper photograph, especially for the plastic reproduction, true to the original, of oil paintings.

Background Art

[0002] Efforts to reproduce paintings as true to the original as possible have been known since the early days of multi-color printing. Today, the 'dressing' of refined art prints, as a specialized area, has reached a never anticipated high level.

[0003] A process for the imitation of paintings is known from US Patent 2,117,795, wherein a canvas is initially provided with a relief-type surface structure. At the locations where in accordance with the original the picture or the colors are to lie higher, the canvas is covered with a thick layer of a settable substance, for example, a mixture of oil and zinc oxide. In order to facilitate the application of the settable substance, a template is used which is perforated corresponding to the more elevated regions of the image. By application of a paint, which flows through the perforations onto the substratum, the regions subsequently to be covered with the settable material can be exactly determined. After the hardening of the layer, the image is transferred. This process is expensive and insufficiently reflects the brush and palette knife strokes of the original.

[0004] Furthermore, a process for the manufacture of images with a smooth surface is known from DE 31 02 409 C2. A layer of paint of white color mixed with chalk is thereby applied onto a canvas provided with adhesive, which color dries under the formation of fine cracks. After a mechanical smoothing, the

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print color is peeled from an overlaid paper image by way of solvents and adhesive and transferred to the surface with the fine cracks. Such pictures convey an impression of age. It is a disadvantage that they have a smooth surface.

Summary of the Invention

[0005] It is an object of the invention to provide a method of transferring a reproduction true to the original onto a canvas of a weave according to the time of creation of the painting, whereby the characteristic 'ductus' of the brush and palette knife strokes noticeably protrudes from the surface.

[0006] This object is achieved in that a paper poster or photograph is applied face down onto a structured matrix, preferably an imprint of the original painting, and three-dimensionally structured by cold pressing against the matrix.

[0007] In the process in accordance with the invention for the structuring of a paper poster or paper photograph, a paper poster or paper photograph is applied with the image surface down onto a structured matrix and fixed thereto, the paper poster or paper photograph being of a size equal to or smaller than the matrix, a canvas is adhered to the back surface of the poster and the so laminated matrix cold surface pressed, the paper poster or paper photograph is after the pressing removed from the matrix together with the canvas and tensioned in a frame, and a sealing is carried out in the known manner.

[0008] The matrix in the preferred embodiment is an imprint of the original painting and the paper poster represents a print of the original painting in the same size as the original. This manner of manufacture creates the highest possible correspondence between the color-plastic reproduction achieved and the original. The respective structure of the underbase of

the painting as well as all further details of the painting surface such as brush stroke, relief, signature, finest aging cracks are deceptively realistically reproduced.

[0009] In a simplified version of the invention, the matrix only has a canvas structure and the paper poster or paper photograph is of a size equal to or smaller than the matrix.

[00010] It is preferably pressed at a pressure of 150 - 200 kp/cm². Synthetic resin has proven to be an advantageous material for the matrix.

[00011] A canvas is preferably used which has a paper cover onto which the adhesive for connection of the poster/photo with the canvas is applied. This prevents the adhesive being pressed through the canvas. Furthermore, the use of a water soluble adhesive has proven advantageous, since it softens the canvas. Also, after the pressing, the paper poster or paper photograph with adhered canvas is preferably tensioned on a frame in the damp condition caused by the water soluble adhesive.

In another preferred embodiment of the invention, an elastic mat of even thickness is inserted between the even press ram and the canvas for the pressing operation, in order to improve the picture structuring. The pressing step can also be repeated several times.

Brief Description of the Drawing

[00012] The invention will be further described in the following by way of example only and with reference to the sole attached drawing figure which shows a cross-section of the various layers stacked above one another during the pressing operation.

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiment

[00013] The Figure shows the process condition prior to the surface pressing. Several layers are stacked in the press between the press table 1 and the press ram 7. A matrix 2 bearing an imprint of the original painting is supported on the press table 1. Protrusions in the original painting are depressions in the matrix 2 and vice versa. Methods for forming imprints of this type are well known in the art and need not be described in detail herein. A paper poster 3 of a size equal to or smaller than the matrix 2 is placed with its image side down onto the matrix 2, and fixed. Because of the corresponding scale of matrix 2 and paper poster 3, the corresponding picture points of the smooth paper poster 3 are point for point located above those of the matrix 2.

[00014] This is followed by a layer of adhesive 4 between canvas 5 and paper poster 3. An elastic mat 6 forms the final layer of the stack in direction of the press ram 7. The canvas 5 is larger than the paper poster 3, since the painting reproduction with three-dimensional surface structure is subsequently mounted under tension onto a frame (not illustrated).

[00015] At least one cold surface pressing operation is carried out in this condition of the stack. The paper poster 3 with the canvas 5 adhered thereto is subsequently removed from the matrix 2, mounted under tension onto a frame, and sealed in a manner well known in the art or painting preservation.